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(54) CARDIAC SUPPORT DEVICE WITH DIFFERENTIAL COMPLIANCE

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2004, now Pat. No. 7,578,784, which is a continuation of application No. 09/880,576, filed on Jun. 13, 2001, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 09/565,621, filed on May 4, 2000, now Pat. No. 6,537,203, which is a continuation of application No. 09/114,510, filed on Jul. 13, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,123, 662.

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(57) ABSTRACT

A cardiac support device comprising a jacket of flexible and biocompatible material having a first axis for alignment generally parallel to a longitudinal axis of a patient's heart and a second axis that is transverse to the first axis. The material exhibits an amount of expansion in response to a force applied to the material along the first axis that is different than an amount of expansion in response to the force applied to the material along the second axis.

